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The Children's Newspaper, Week Ending September 14, 1957

THE CONWAYS AGAIN—See page 9

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 2008, September 14, 1957

OVERLANDERS HIT THE TRAIL AGAIN

Long trek across Australia's barren wastes

IN the next few weeks 70 lumbering mobs of cattle, each averaging between 1200 and 1400 head and worth at least £20,000 a mob, will be leaving their home stations in Western Australia and Northern Territory to follow their leader—a man on a horse—into Queensland. The Overlanders will be on the move once more.

For September is the month when thousands of bellowing cattle begin to tramp slowly across 1500 miles of Australia's far north on their annual trek to fattening pastures and to markets in eastern Australia.

It is the longest, hottest, and dustiest trek in the world: but a trek which pays big dividends if all goes well.

This annual movement involves 100,000 beasts, but about half of them have comparatively short journeys from Barkly Tableland stations across the border into western Queensland. For the remainder it is a long, slow trek of 1500 miles, taking up to five months. Along the track the only green grass consists of small patches around some of the bores, which are up to 20 miles apart.

The Overlanders, as the cattle and their drovers are called, have been moving out of Western Australia and the Northern Territory ever since their areas were first settled, about a century ago. But in the past few years these vast properties are being watered by more and more bores, subdivided, and improved, and as a result the mobs are growing.

A DRINK EVERY TWO DAYS

This year, thanks to a complete modernising of the route, the cattle will get a drink every two days unless held up by dust storms; but it is not so many years since dry stages of 80 to 90 miles were quite common. Frequently in those days drovers could not move their cattle and thousands died. Today, losses are very few and although the cattle lose condition, they are still healthy and soon recover completely when they reach their destination.

Many are the romantic tales told about the early drovers, and most of them are true. Perhaps the most colourful of them all was "The Fizzer," the famous drover of Mrs. Aeneas Gunn's "We of the Never Never," who once held a mob of cattle in the far north-west of Australia for two years, waiting for the rains to come.

MEN OF EXPERIENCE

The stockmen and drovers who make the long trip are all men of experience, and most of them know no other kind of life. Many of the drovers have been working in the saddle for more than half a century.

One, Charlie Swan, who is now 75, still sits a horse as to the manner born, living a hard life yet refusing to change it. This year he will be taking 1400 head of cattle from Gordon Downs in Western Australia to a holding property south of Darwin, there to rest before moving on into Queensland.

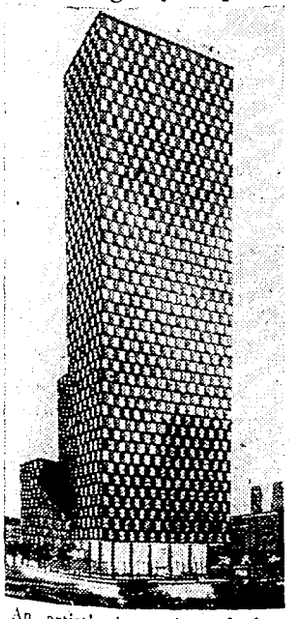
MOTOR-CYCLING SHEPHERD

Jack Ellis of West Linton, Peebles, is an unusual shepherd; he uses a motor-cycle to round up his sheep.

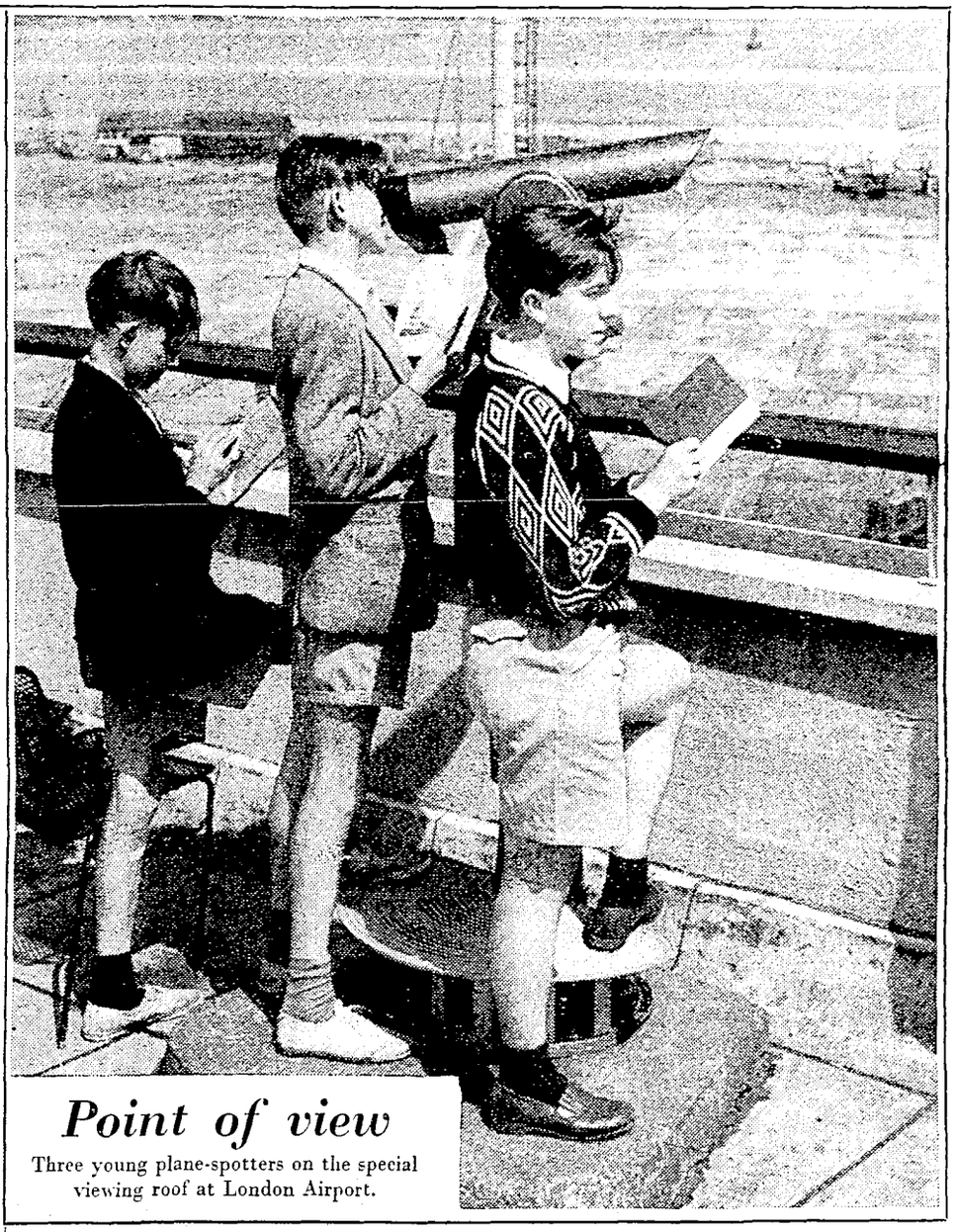
He has won numerous prizes in motor-cycling trials and hill-climbing competitions, and loves the sport so much that he combines it with his job as a shepherd.

Guiding his machine up narrow sheep tracks, and across pathless hills, he rounds up the flocks, occasionally dismounting to give the sheepdogs a breather.

Dazzling skyscraper



An artist's impression of the red-chequered skyscraper to be erected on the site of New York's Carnegie Hall.



Point of view

Three young plane-spotters on the special viewing roof at London Airport.

WILD LIFE AT THE POST OFFICE

Twenty Continental long-nosed vipers were found in a box the other day at Mount Pleasant Sorting Office, London. Seventeen of them were still alive, and they were sent to the London Zoo to be cared for until they could be forwarded to the Dundee Zoological student to whom they were addressed from Prague.

The incident recalls other "finds" in the Post Office during the last few years. But first of all it should be known that the only live things that can be sent through the post are bees and leeches, and even these have to be securely packed to prevent escape. Any other livestock found in the post goes to the Zoo.

The Post Office has told the public for many years that living creatures, other than those mentioned, cannot be sent by parcel post. In spite of this, people do break the regulations; and sometimes they are found out, generally because the livestock becomes lively and escapes.

On more than one occasion busy postmen and sorters working at Mount Pleasant have had to dash about with a net attached to the end of a stick trying to capture escaped butterflies.

During the war an elderly lady took a canary in a cage to the counter of London's chief Post Office, near St. Paul's Cathedral. She told the clerk behind the counter that she was afraid "the dear little thing" would get hurt in an air raid and therefore wished to send it through the post to her daughter in Devon. She also brought a bottle of water and a packet of bird seed "so that the postman can feed Joey on the way."

The lady was dismayed when told that all parcels were put in mailbags and, therefore, it would not be possible to get her pet to Devon that way. She brightened up, however, when the counter clerk suggested that if she went to the railway station someone there would tell her how canary, cage, food, and water could conveniently go by train.

With the exception of bees and leeches, to send livestock through the post in parcels would be cruel because of the absence of fresh air, and the possibility of being crushed under the weight of other parcels, or of unavoidable delay that might result in death from starvation.

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THE ROYAL AIR FORCE AT HOME

On Saturday, people will be able to visit air stations in the United Kingdom to see the R.A.F. at work and play.

Of the 37 stations, 11 are in Fighter Command and the remainder are in other operational and training commands. Six stations, Biggin Hill, Horsham St. Faith, Thornaby, St. Athan, Castle Bromwich, and Turnhouse, which are near large cities or towns, are to have special flying displays.

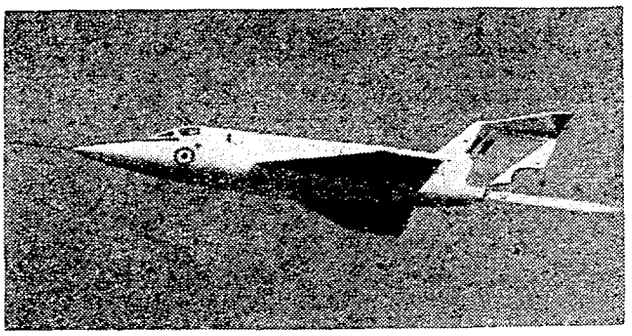
All roads from London will once more lead to the famous wartime R.A.F. station at Biggin Hill, to a spectacular three-hour display which in previous years has attracted attendances of more than 250,000 people.

CAVALCADE OF FLIGHT

This year Biggin Hill will be declared "open" by Hollywood actor Ray Milland—a pilot in the U.S.A.F. in 1943, and now taking the part of an R.A.F. Wing Commander in a film called High Flight, to be released later this year.

The Biggin Hill display, which is to be televised by the B B C, will take the form of a Cavalcade of Flight, with both the latest prototypes and the earliest "stick-and-canvas" machines taking part.

Most up-to-date aircraft to show its paces over the airfield will be the spectacular Saunders-Roe SR 53, a 1000 m.p.h.-plus fighter, which uses a jet engine for normal cruising flight, and switches a fully-controllable rocket into action for climbing to great heights at *supersonic* speeds.



The Saunders-Roe SR 53

Among other fully supersonic aircraft to make an appearance will be the Fairey Delta 2, piloted by Peter Twiss, and the English Electric P. 1.

A flashback to Britain's early planes, several of them flown in the First World War by the Royal Flying Corps, is to be provided by a Bristol Fighter ("Brisfit" to granddad!), a Sopwith Pup, and a Camel.

A full range of types which have been in service with the R.F.C. and R.A.F. will be seen in miniature in a collection of more than 1000 models.

These aircraft—masterpieces of the modelmakers' art—are the work of Mr. P. Farrar of Torquay, whose collection is believed to be the biggest of its kind.

Other highlights will be demonstrations of close formation aerobatics by the U.S.A.F. Skyblazers and the famous five-man team from No. 111 Squadron, flying Hawker Hunters. The uncanny precision with which the Hunter team perform their aerobatics has won them wide acclaim at international air shows on the Continent. Undercarriages are retracted at precisely the same instant and from then on the five aircraft flash through the sky with the grace of a *corps de ballet*.

Novelty at the R.A.F. "At Homes" will not only be apparent in the aerial spectacles but also in the various static and side shows. They will include Emett-type trains for the very young to ride in.

As usual, admission will be free and the proceeds from car parking, and programme sales will be shared by the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund and the R.A.F. Association.

NEW WEATHER SHIP

A Royal Navy frigate is being transferred to the Air Ministry for service as a weather ship. She is the Oakham Castle, and she will be made ready to replace the Weather Explorer early next year.

Weather Explorer is one of the British ships which have been on regular weather observation service in the North Atlantic for the past ten years.

The present weather ships are all converted Flower class corvettes which were on convoy duty during the war. The Castle class frigates are very similar.

LUXURY TRAVEL ON THE RIVER

The latest and most luxurious of the Paris river-boats ("bateaux-mouche") recently went to her mooring-place at the Solferino bridge. Named La Galiote, she will begin next year to take Trans-atlantic liner passengers down the Seine to and from Le Havre.

She has 50 air-conditioned cabins equipped with television, and during the summer she will tow a plastic swimming bath. A children's play room, hairdressing establishment, and a big dining saloon are also provided.

BOOK OF THE AIR

Peter Twiss, holder of the world's speed record, and Group Captain Douglas Bader are just two of the world-famous men who contribute to the Boys' Book of the Air (Edmund Ward, 10s. 6d.).

There is Lord Brabazon of Tara, too, writing about the "back-room boys" of aviation; Air Marshal Sir John D'Albiac telling the story of London Airport; and Air Vice-Marshal D. C. T. Bennett describing the work of the Pathfinder Force.

Tales of the pioneering days, of the Comet and Britannia, of Australia's Flying Doctor Service, are also here together with stories and quizzes that will delight all air-minded youngsters.



Their very own tractor

Many of the boys at Wrotham, in Kent, will take up a career in farming, and so agricultural subjects are included in the County Secondary school's curriculum. Here we see boys receiving instruction on the school's own tractor.

MOUNTAIN-TOP POST

A pillar-box is to be installed on the summit of Mount Kosciusko, Australia's highest peak (7328 feet). All letters in the box, which will be open only during the summer tourist season, will be collected weekly by the manager of a nearby tourist hotel and taken to the nearest post office, to be franked with a pictorial postmark.

QUOKKAS ON THE MOVE

Specimens of the Australian quokka, a marsupial kangaroo rat about 18 inches tall, are being sent to 500 zoos throughout the world. This is because the island of Rottnest, near Perth, is becoming over-populated with them and fast approaching its capacity to feed them. Altogether there are about 10,000 quokkas on this island.

News from Everywhere

Shark's liver oil, rich in Vitamins A and D, is now being produced in India.

A Doncaster woman who died recently left £100 for the care of her pet tortoise.

An American expedition will make an attempt to climb Everest next spring.

NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN

The 1000th student at the London Midland diesel locomotive training school at Derby is Mr. J. Preece, aged 58, who has driven steam locomotives for the past 14 years.

Apologising for being late in court, a solicitor representing British Railways explained that his train did not arrive on time.

A Valiant jet bomber has captured the Ottawa-to-London record. The 3300-mile trip was made in six hours four minutes—nearly 550 m.p.h.

ZEBRA TURTLE

A black-and-white striped turtle weighing 1700 lb. has been caught off Lourenço Marques, Mozambique.

An Ashbourne (Derbyshire) man has grown two tomatoes weighing 1½ lb. each.

The new Hull diesel-electric trawler, Cape Trafalgar, is "driven" like a car, the man in charge sitting in a swivel chair on the bridge, with the steering wheel and throttle control close at hand.

Remains of a herd of Mastodons (huge elephant-like mammals) which perished during a volcanic eruption a million years ago have been discovered near Filakov, Czechoslovakia.

Sir John Hunt, of Everest fame, led a party up the 14,000-feet Swiss peak Alphoubel to rescue three marooned climbers.

Feathers in his cap



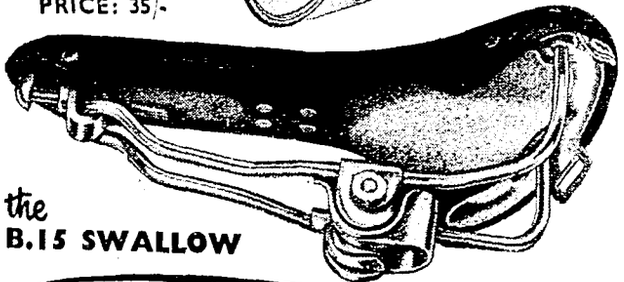
A regular nesting place for some of London's birds is the cap of Henry VIII's statue which adorns St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

DESIGNED FOR Action!

Shaped like its famous forerunner the B.17 Swallow — the B.15 is a saddle for the cyclist who likes to travel at speed. The clean cut lines of the B.15 Swallow will make your machine look "just right". And the price is right too.

PRICE: 35/-





the B.15 SWALLOW

BROOKS

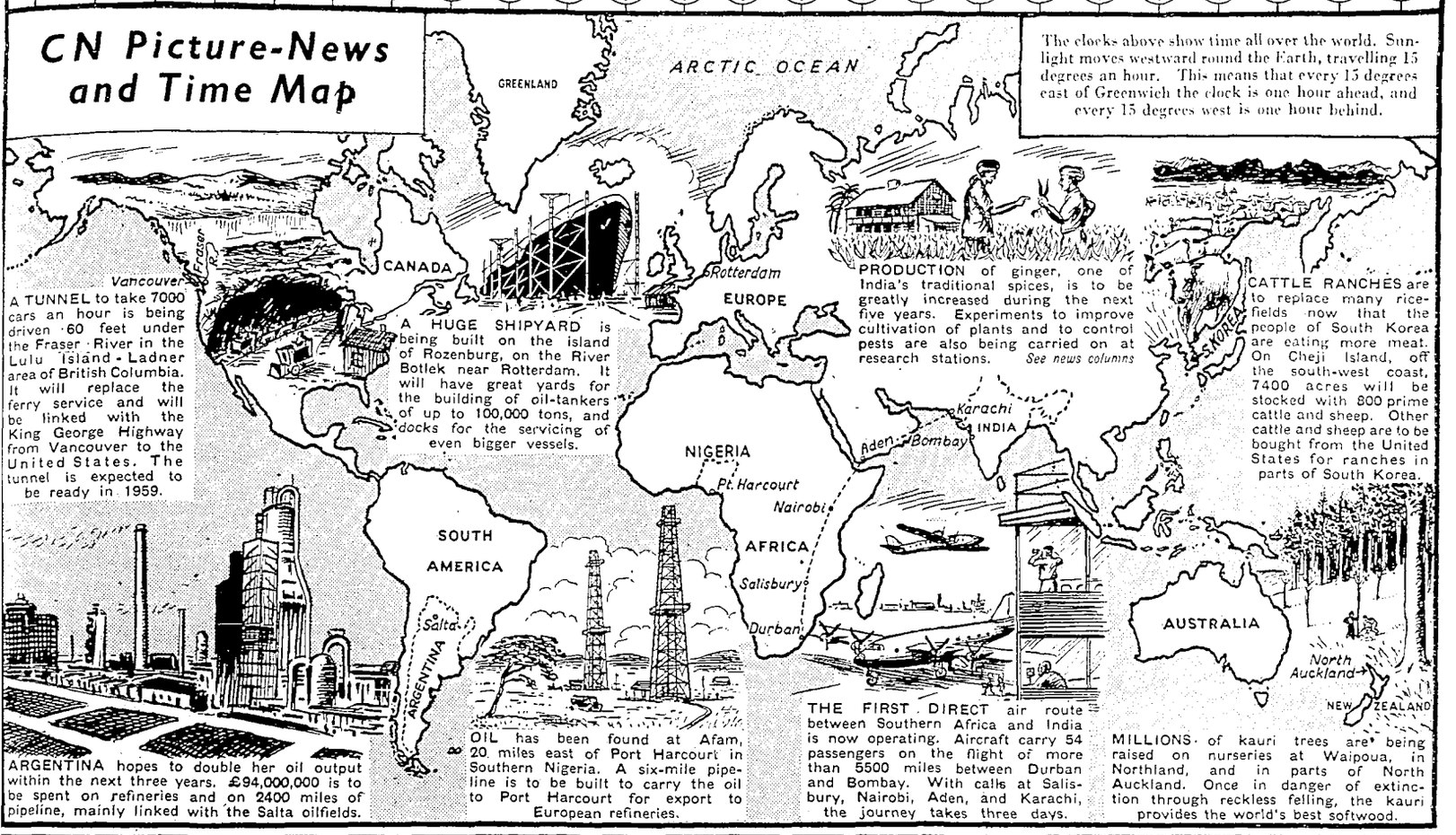
The Finest Saddle in the World

J. B. BROOKS & CO. LTD., BIRMINGHAM 3

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CN Picture-News and Time Map

The clocks above show time all over the world. Sunlight moves westward round the Earth, travelling 15 degrees an hour. This means that every 15 degrees east of Greenwich the clock is one hour ahead, and every 15 degrees west is one hour behind.



A TUNNEL to take 7000 cars an hour is being driven 60 feet under the Fraser River in the Lulu Island - Ladner area of British Columbia. It will replace the ferry service and will be linked with the King George Highway from Vancouver to the United States. The tunnel is expected to be ready in 1959.

A HUGE SHIPYARD is being built on the island of Rozenburg, on the River Botlek near Rotterdam. It will have great yards for the building of oil-tankers of up to 100,000 tons, and docks for the servicing of even bigger vessels.

PRODUCTION of ginger, one of India's traditional spices, is to be greatly increased during the next five years. Experiments to improve cultivation of plants and to control pests are also being carried on at research stations. *See news columns*

CATTLE RANCHES are to replace many rice-fields now that the people of South Korea are eating more meat. On Cheji Island, off the south-west coast, 7400 acres will be stocked with 800 prime cattle and sheep. Other cattle and sheep are to be bought from the United States for ranches in parts of South Korea.

ARGENTINA hopes to double her oil output within the next three years. £94,000,000 is to be spent on refineries and on 2400 miles of pipeline, mainly linked with the Salta oilfields.

OIL has been found at Afam, 20 miles east of Port Harcourt in Southern Nigeria. A six-mile pipeline is to be built to carry the oil to Port Harcourt for export to European refineries.

THE FIRST DIRECT air route between Southern Africa and India is now operating. Aircraft carry 54 passengers on the flight of more than 5500 miles between Durban and Bombay. With calls at Salisbury, Nairobi, Aden, and Karachi, the journey takes three days.

MILLIONS of kauri trees are being raised on nurseries at Waipoua, in Northland, and in parts of North Auckland. Once in danger of extinction through reckless felling, the kauri provides the world's best softwood.

CHILDREN GUARD THE GANNETS

Over 150 schoolchildren in the Hawkes Bay area of New Zealand have enrolled as junior wild-life wardens. In groups of five to eight each under a leader, they patrol wild-life reserves at week-ends and during school holidays. But their special job is to help to protect the famous gannet sanctuary at Cape Kidnappers.

The gannets have long had breeding colonies here. It is believed, indeed, that they were here when Captain Cook first discovered the Cape and named it after some Maoris who had tried to kidnap a Tahitian boy from his ship, the Endeavour.

These big sea-birds, together with the nest and eggs, are protected by law, but visitors are allowed to watch them at close quarters. The junior warden's duty is to escort visitors and to check their permits.

CALL OF THE OPEN ROAD

A young South African chemist, Winfrith Fitschen, recently arrived in Oslo for a "breather" after walking and hitch-hiking from Cape Town. Since May last year, he has covered more than 13,000 miles, travelled through 19 countries, and worn out three pairs of boots.

Still not having seen enough of the world, he is heading for France and then Britain with a view to crossing the Atlantic and hiking from one side of America to the other—and back again.

Stamp news

AUSTRALIA will have two special Christmas stamps this year. One will portray a child at prayer and the other will show the Star of Bethlehem.

THIS is Britain's new 6d. stamp for use on air letter forms. On sale on Thursday, September 12, it also marks the 46th Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, being held in London. After October, the lettering in the top corner will be omitted.



ITALY has a new Road Safety stamp. Inscribed "Care on the Roads," it shows crossroads and a traffic light set at red.

FIVE native flowers are depicted on a new set of Polish stamps.

ELGAR ENGINE

British Railways have just renamed one of their Castle Class locomotives. No. 7005, which was formerly "Lamphey Castle," has returned to its shed at Worcester as "Sir Edward Elgar." The renaming has been done to mark the Elgar Centenary, and the locomotive will operate in Elgar country.

This is probably the first case of tribute being paid to a composer in this way.

HOT NEWS FROM INDIA

Ginger production, one of India's traditional spices, is being increased under the Second Five-Year Plan (1956-61). The news that India exported 2800 tons of ginger in 1955 compared with only 2000 tons in 1948 will make hot news for those who enjoy this well-known product of the East.

Determined to make their ginger still hotter, the Indian Government is pushing ahead with experiments on this crop at special research stations.

New and improved methods of cultivating, storing and curing are being studied and so are ways of controlling the pests.

See World Map

Oil-painting sets won by CN readers

For their colourings in CN Competition No. 21, large oil-painting sets have been awarded to Pauline Allett, Whitwick; Rachel Dodd, Barnstaple; Anne Garrard, Colchester; Greta Hansen, Ipswich; Lesley Hill, Timperley; Mary Johnston, Auldgirth; Robert Merrett, Cardiff; Margaret Patterson, Bath; John Platt, Chesterton; and Graham Rust, Cuffley.

Smaller sets, for the next best efforts, go to Jenny Davies, Great Bookham; David Gardner, Gloucester; Jeffrey Granite, London, N.4; Rosemary Hook, Sale; Jennifer Meech, Welwyn Garden City; John Phillips, Templeton; Patricia Rigby, Marlow; Fiona Stirling, Whitby; Christine Waites, Ilford; Imelda Wallace, Llandudno.

SCHOOLS COST LESS

What costs less today than it did ten years ago? The answer is a school building; new schools cost less than they did in the 1940s.

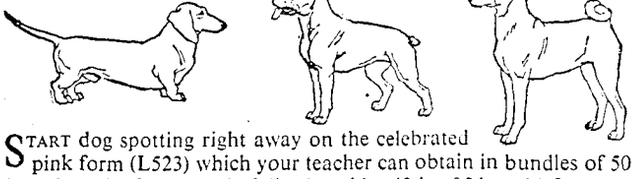
Yet nothing is being skimped. Those who have built new schools with places for 1,772,000 boys and girls have made them so attractive that many overseas visitors consider our new schools display modern architecture at its best.

"The post-war schools, like medieval churches, dominate the local landscape," says the Minister of Education, Lord Hailsham. "By their purpose and design they testify to the spirit of our age. They will show how far we have applied our imagination and resources to the future of our children."

How have architects and builders managed to fulfil these aims and reduce costs in spite of rising wages and prices? Scientific research and skilful design have led to much economy in the making of fittings, and, still more, in the methods of building.

One factor which has saved much money is the height of classroom ceilings. In Victorian times classrooms were usually 14 feet high. In 1949 they were generally about a dozen feet high. Today ceilings are usually less than 10 feet high. In the newer schools the rule is: "Stilts may not be used indoors."

CAN YOU SPOT THESE DOGS?



START dog spotting right away on the celebrated pink form (L523) which your teacher can obtain in bundles of 50 (together with free chart in full colour identifying 95 breeds) from:—

R. Harvey Johns, Chief Dog Spotter, 10 Seymour St., London, W.1.

Please hand this to your teacher who will appreciate that Dog Spotting is an educational, open air activity sponsored by The National Canine Defence League to encourage kindness to animals.

WATCH FOR NEW CLUB ACTIVITIES

Teacher's Name

Address

.....

DS CN26

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ERNEST THOMSON WRITES ABOUT RADIO AND TELEVISION PERSONALITIES AND PROGRAMMES

FURTHER EDUCATION FOR ARCHIE



Sir Donald Bradman, with Peter Brough and Archie

ARCHIE ANDREWS, with Peter Brough in attendance, will bring something extra into Children's Favourites when the pair start a new ten-week series in the Light Programme on Saturday morning.

They have just completed a tour round the world, meeting hundreds of interesting people and seeing all sorts of places that, to many of us, are only names on the map. If you tune in Children's Favourites they promise to give you, in between records, a vivid story about their experiences in the true Archie manner.

It was last May that they set out for Australia, flying the eastward route by way of Switzerland, Italy, India, and Singapore. When they reached their destination, Sydney, they at once started an Archie in Australia radio series. Meanwhile, at nights, they starred in Calypso Capers at the Sydney Tivoli.

Peter Brough is an old friend of Sir Don Bradman, so the eminent cricketer put them up as guests during part of their stay.

A fortnight ago Peter and Archie flew back the other way round the world by way of Honolulu, Fiji, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York.

Educating Archie, by the way, comes back to the Light Programme on Thursday, September 19. And one of the recorded voices will be that of Sir Don Bradman.

Birthday party for ITV

WHILE the BBC has recently been observing high definition television's 21st birthday, commercial TV has been getting ready to celebrate its second birthday, which falls on September 20.

The highlight of Associated-Rediffusion's plans is a party on the good ship Royal Sovereign as she steams down the Thames on the night of September 19.

Michael Westmore, the narrator, first became known to young viewers in BBC Children's TV, for he invented Whirligig. Now he is a features chief in Associated-Rediffusion, and this promises to be one of his biggest features to date. The stars on board the Royal Sovereign will include Margaret Lockwood, Kenneth More, and Dickie Valentine.



Partners in fun

Abbott and Costello in a new series

ABBOTT and Costello, the famous American film comedy pair, break into British TV for the first time at 6 p.m. on Saturday with the start of their series in Associated TeleVision.

Partners for the past 20 years, Bud Abbott and Lou Costello have twice topped the poll as the biggest money-makers among all stars in the United States. The probable reason for their success is that they appeal to everybody—grown-ups and young people alike. Abbott plays the straight part, Costello takes the falls.

BORN IN A CIRCUS

Abbott was born in the Barnum and Bailey Circus, where his mother was a bareback rider. He left school to become a sailor but turned cashier in a theatre. From then on show business gripped him.

Costello, after leaving school in New Jersey, tried prize fighting, but preferred being a clerk in a hat store. Saving 200 dollars, he bought a car for half that figure and drove to Hollywood in hopes of becoming a film actor. Instead, he was given a job as studio labourer. Soon, however, he became a film stunt man. One day, when ordered to jump from the second storey of a burning building, he ended in a hospital bed. When on his feet again he met Bud Abbott and the celebrated partnership began.

Evening with the hop-pickers

WHOLE households, from grandmothers down to the youngest baby, go into camp in Kent for the hop-picking season at this time of year and make it their annual holiday.

In BBC Television's Now this Wednesday viewers will be able to join 3000 hop-pickers having a jolly evening off at Beltring. Part of the festivities will be a revival of the ancient custom of roasting an ox whole. On the modern side we meet a skiffle group. The BBC's "Hotfoot Girl," Jacqueline Mackenzie, will be mistress of ceremonies.

Peter Haigh in lifeboat drama

PETER HAIGH, BBC's popular television announcer, was on the beach at Bembridge, in the Isle of Wight, when a 15-ton sloop became unmanageable in a gale and her crew appealed for help.

The local lifeboat crew turned out, but found themselves a man short. Peter immediately offered to stand in, and with him aboard the lifeboat ploughed through the heavy seas to rescue five men from the distressed ship.

MODERN SHERIFF IN THE WILD WEST

NOT all Western films have to deal with old-time cowboys on horses. Associated-Rediffusion is starting up a modern weekly Western series at 7 o'clock on Thursday, September 19, called The Sheriff of Cochise. This is an affair of fast cars, radio, TV, and all the other devices which have replaced the six-shooter and lasso in dealing with wrong-doers. John Bromfield, who stars as the Sheriff, had help and advice from the actual Sheriff of Cochise County himself.

The films have been made in the same studios as was the series I Love Lucy.



Stirring tale of the Covenanters

SCOTTISH history abounds in stirring chapters, but there is scarcely one more fascinating than the story of the Covenanters. This is the theme of A Daughter of Dundonald, a play by Sheila Arthur to be broadcast in BBC Children's Hour this Thursday (September 12).

With the scene laid in Ayrshire, it deals with the Covenanters in the reign of James II who pledged themselves to uphold their forms of religious service in the face of persecution. Often they met in caves and other refuges in the hills, with men constantly on guard to watch for the approaching soldiery.

A Daughter of Dundonald introduces the figure of Sir John Cochrane of Ochiltree (played by Bryden Murdoch), who sympathised with the Covenanters and whose name was connected with a plot to raise the nation against the King.

Lady Cochrane is played by Jean Faulds and their daughter, Giselle, by Gwyneth Guthrie.

Props department to the rescue



Little Lord Fauntleroy with the model paddle steamboat

ONE of the most beautiful little ships models yet made in the BBC Television Property department will be seen in the fifth instalment of Little Lord Fauntleroy in Children's Television on October 1.

This is the paddle steamboat which Richard O'Sullivan, as Little Lord Fauntleroy, manipulates on the pond at Knole House. The ship, which conforms closely to designs of the 1880's—the period of the story—was constructed at very short notice after a mishap which nobody could possibly have foreseen.

Originally the BBC borrowed a two-masted gaff-rigged schooner from an old gentleman who had sailed it on the Round Pond in Kensington Gardens. Unluckily, the BBC's representative had to go into hospital one afternoon for a minor eye operation, and left the model in his car outside. He was kept in hospital longer than he expected, with the result that the schooner failed to "make port," being too late for the filming.

However, the Property Department prides itself on being able to rise to any occasion, and we see the results of their resourcefulness in the photograph!

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NURSERY FOR CHILDREN'S NURSES



The right way to hold the bottle—and the baby



A ride round the big garden while the sun shines

Among the silver birch woods of Chislehurst Common, on the south-east outskirts of London, is the college where the famous Norland Nurses receive their training in taking care of young children. It is, of course, only one of a great number of nursery training colleges, but it is typical of the best, and a C N correspondent who recently paid it a visit, here describes the work that goes on—work of truly national importance.

FOUNDED in 1892, Norland Nursery Training College comprises four houses with gardens which provide plenty of lawn for young feet to run about on, and trees for hide-and-seek. For the College is not only a place for training nurses; it is also a Nursery for smaller children and a Nursery school for the slightly older ones as well. From 30 to 40 children come daily to school here and there are about 30 tots living in the Nursery. Some of the children come from overseas, for the fame of the Norland Nurses has spread around the world.

The nurse-in-training has to learn, under expert supervision, how to deal with the infants under two, and then with children between two and five.

"What type of girl makes the best nurse?" our correspondent asked, and Miss Joan Kirby, the Principal, was quite definite on the point.

"The girl with a real and deep love for children," she replied. "That is the first essential."

LAUGHTER EVERYWHERE

Then we went inside and explored the building, and it was noticeable, that morning, that while there was laughter there were no tears to be heard anywhere.

In one room a story was in progress, and the audience, in semi-circle together, were repeating, with much hard breathing, the incidents one by one as the narrator unfolded once again the familiar, never-varying fairy tale.

In another room, full of very small tables and very small chairs, some youngsters with brushes and paints were busy making a wonderland of colour appear on the paper before their intent eyes.

The minimum age for girls wishing to take the course is 18, and the work is by no means confined to looking after toddlers. There are lectures on Domestic Science, anatomy, child study, and many other subjects. Students also have to learn the best way to tell a nursery story—not always a natural gift—and how best to organise games and handwork so that children can learn the important lesson of how to amuse themselves profitably.

PRACTICAL WORK

Students have a good deal of practical work—such as plain needlework, mending, housewifery, simple laundry work, cookery for children, and so on. They also learn how to make children's clothes.

The nurseries are run as models of home life, the only difference being, of course, that they are on a bigger scale.

The whole course takes 21 months, three of them being spent in a hospital so that the principles of sick nursing can be learned. But there is no question of learning to be certificated sick nurses—that is another job altogether.

At the end of the course there is an exam to be passed in both theory and practice. I had a look at some of the questions in a recent paper which had been set. For instance, "What opportunities can you make in the nursery for singing to children aged 9-18 months? Why should you do this? What kind of music do they like to listen to?" They were questions, it seemed to me, that many people would find it hard to answer: and important, too, for the peace of both baby and home.

Having successfully passed the examination, a certificate is awarded to the candidate. This entitles the holder to wear the coveted Norland Badge, and to embark on one of the most rewarding of all careers for girls.

A. V. I.



Wash and brush-up



Practical work includes the cutting out and making of small garments, and knitting them too



Holding tight—to nurse and the banisters

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Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars . London . EC4
SEPTEMBER 14 1957

The Editor's Table

ABC OF THE YHA

YOUTH HOSTELS are primarily intended for young walkers, cyclists, and canoeists. In England and Wales, motorists are not allowed to take advantage of this half-a-crown a night accommodation. But this rule is not always understood, and as a result some amusing guidance is given in the Y H A Magazine:

Owners of (and passengers in) automobiles, balloons, coaches, destroyers, engines, frigates, gunboats, helicopters, ice-breakers, jet-planes, Lagondas, mopeds, nuggers, outboards, pop-pops, Q-boats, Rolls, submarines, turbo-jets, underground trains, Volkswagens, whalers, Xebecs, yachts, and Zeppelins may join the Y H A subject to the usual conditions.

Such owners of (or passengers in) a, b, c, etc., may use their a, b, c, etc., to reach a hostelling area. They may not travel from hostel to hostel by a, b, c, etc. They must garage or dock or enhangar their a, b, c, etc., whilst they undertake a genuine hostelling tour on foot (or by cycle or canoe if they've brought one on their a, b, c, etc.

With this good-humoured alphabet the Youth Hostels Association upholds a basic principle of its existence. Everyone will agree that young people afoot, awheel, or afloat, ought never to be left stranded because accommodation intended for their slender resources has been taken by touring motorists.

VERITY IN COURT

AN 18-year-old girl sits beside the learned Clerk in Watford Magistrates' Court hearing witnesses take the oath to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. And, most appropriately, her name is Verity—Verity Hickford.

The daughter of Watford Police Chief Inspector George Hickford, she is articled to the learned Clerk, and after 12 months' hard study she has just passed the Law Society's intermediate exam. Now she has started on three or four more years of even harder study with a view to becoming a fully-qualified solicitor.

Her work of taking notes in Court is serious and important, but sometimes there are incidents which raise a smile. For instance, a few days ago, two nine-year-old girls came into Court and were asked if they understood what taking an oath meant. "Yes, we've seen it done on the Tele," each replied.

All in the day's work

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD Ann Dickins arrived at Elstree Studios for her first day's filming work and was told to get on with the washing-up! The chore was for a complicated scene in the film, We Are Seven.

Ann and another actress, Eileen Herlie, spent the entire day washing up a mound of crockery—which the property men methodically took away and made dirty again.

Somewhat subdued, Ann remarked afterwards: "I usually help mummy with the dishes after dinner at night. But I'm afraid she won't be getting any help from me for the rest of the week!"

IN DEMAND

THERE once was a chairman named Brown,
Who was much in demand in his town.
Instead of oration
He'd give a donation,
And amid wild applause would sit down.

Underwater robbery

ONE of Australia's lesser-known trade unions—the Bridge and Wharf Carpenters' Union—has obtained a rise of 7s. 6d. for its members, to cover replacement of tools lost underwater.

According to evidence submitted before the court hearing the wage claim, underwater thieves in Sydney Harbour often seize tools and scuttle away with them or quickly cover them with silt before the divers realise they are gone. The culprits are crabs and octopuses!

We had not thought before of either creature as having "taking ways"!

Cosy home



This unusual old building at Stanton Drew, Somerset, was formerly a toll-house but is now occupied by a family.

Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper, September 17, 1927

IT comes as a terrible shock to find a British court of law declaring that it is lawful for a slave-owner to recapture two runaway slaves within the British Empire.

History books tell us of the great Abolition Acts which declared that "from and after the first day of August, 1834, slavery shall be and is hereby utterly and forever abolished and declared unlawful throughout the British Colonies, plantations, and possessions abroad."

Unfortunately, in spite of its sweeping wording, it is held that the Act does not apply to Protectorates or Protected States.

THEY SAY . . .

THE British Commonwealth constitutes one of the great contributing factors to a world society of order based on justice. We pay tribute to that wisdom, from which we all derive so great a benefit.

Mr. John Foster Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State

IF real peace could be established a new kind of war could be declared—a total war on the forces of poverty, ignorance, and hunger.

United Nations food expert at an Oxford conference

MOST of the English products you find in America we had to come over here and ferret out.

Official of the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry

A TEACHER'S life would be delightful if all his pupils were the well-mannered and tractable products of enlightened and cultured homes.

Professor Richard Ellis

Think on These Things

LISTEN to the Psalmist's words, so full of keenness to do God's will: "Lord, what love have I unto Thy law: all the day long is my study in it." To perform God's law for Him is not just a matter of duty but of love.

If we love people, we want to do what will please them. If we love God we want to keep His commandments. St. Augustine said: "Love God and do what you like." He meant, of course, that if you really love God, you will like to do His will.

We have all had the experience at school of finding some subject difficult, and, as a result, disliking it.

Then, perhaps quite suddenly, we have found a little light dawning; we were beginning to master the subject, and, with increasing understanding, finding that we were beginning to like it.

The more we know of Jesus and His love for us, the more we shall want to please Him; and this will mean that we shall find delight in doing what sometimes seems difficult and hard, and yet is His will. O. R. C.

JUST AN IDEA

As Jane Austen wrote: There is no charm equal to tenderness of heart.

JUST A FEW WORDS

HERE is an entertaining way to increase your knowledge of words. Each numbered sentence below is followed by three answers or comments you might make; but, in each case, only one is correct and shows that you have understood the meaning of the word in italics. To answer five or six correctly is very good.

(*Answers are given on page 12*)

1. You are *incorrigible*.
 A—Cannot be led astray.
 B—Impossible to console.
 C—Beyond hope of reform.

2. He's not very *articulate*.
 A—Not clever with his hands.
 B—Doesn't speak clearly.
 C—Clumsy in his movements.

3. My question was *rhetorical*.
 A—Required no answer.
 B—Thoroughly disturbing.
 C—Of no importance.

4. He sang a *lugubrious* song.
 A—Senseless words.
 B—A mournful tune.
 C—Amusingly witty.

5. Don't be *facetious*.
 A—A trouble-maker.
 B—Two-faced.
 C—Trying to be funny.

6. The prisoner received *clemency*.
 A—Justice.
 B—Harshness.
 C—Mercy.



OUR HOMELAND

Sandplace, near Looe, in Cornwall. The end cottage is the village Post Office

Out and About

A COOL, strong breeze thrust through the tree-tops, and countless fat wood-pigeons bustled in and out of the wood. Most of the trees are horse-chestnuts, and now and again a "conker" bounced to the ground with a small thud.

It is the time when the many kinds of nuts and berries, all the fruits of wild trees, are reaching ripeness. It is also the time when you notice the revival of bird-song after the comparative silence of August. But pigeons were heard then cooing in most places, even if now, when other birds are finding their voices again, the pigeons seem usually too busy eating to continue their kind of singing.

IN FULL VOICE

Not until the blackberries have almost all gone, and gold and bronze begin to replace much of the green in the foliage of trees, will most of the best singers, like the thrush, return to full voice again, before the winter. One of the early ones to join the choir again in September is the chiff-chaff, who by October is ready to depart.

Most noticeable now, while hips and haws are just getting their first tinge of red, are the thick, ripe clusters of elderberry. The missel thrush, blackbird, and starling are particularly fond of it. The sloe from the blackthorn, and the crab-apple, are also great favourites with some birds. In gardens and orchards, cultivated fruit trees have dropped windfalls which attract not only birds but small animals and butterflies and moths.

PLENTY OF WILD FLOWERS

As we walk between a pasture and a stubbled cornfield we notice there are still plenty of wild flowers. Not only red clover but its cousin white, or Dutch, clover still feed the bees that visit the pasture, where we were pleased also to notice the blue of devil's-bit scabious.

In the cornfields there are many small flowers which revive after the harvesting and before ploughing starts again. Our stubble field contained many of those purple and gold miniature pansies called heartsease, a beautiful little flower which is considered a weed when it spreads in gardens.

AUTUMN HAWKBIT

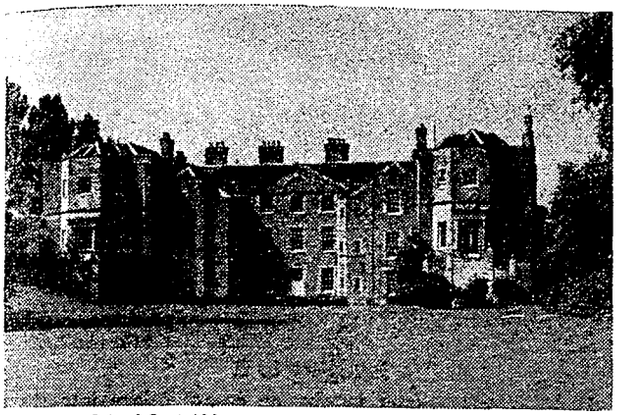
Another plant there, with yellow blooms like miniature dandelions, is quite different botanically. It is called Autumn hawkbit. Being near the edge of the stubble it had very likely spread from the pasture near-by.

These and many other flowers which are more easily noticed now than in the height of summer, help to prevent a too-sudden break between summer and autumn, not only by their appearance to us but also from the insects' point of view, and therefore that of the birds, too.

C. D. D.

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Hampshire house for the Nation



Mottisfont Abbey, in the Test Valley of Hampshire

A fine Hampshire house with a long history has been given to the National Trust by Mrs. Maud Russell.

Mottisfont Abbey is its name, and it was founded as an Augustinian priory about 750 years ago. Lord Chancellor Sandys acquired it after the Dissolution of the Monasteries in Henry the Eighth's time, and made many alterations. But the ancient vaulted crypt is still there, as well as the original oak roof of the chapel nave.

Sweeping changes were again made 200 years ago, and as a result there are several rooms splendidly decorated in 18th-century style. An impressive modern feature is the Rex Whistler drawing-room, with paintings by this brilliant young artist, who was killed in the Second World War.

Mottisfont Abbey stands amid beautiful scenery in the Test Valley, and more than 1000 acres of its own woods and farmland are included in the gift. The house will be opened to the public for two days a week, starting next April.

MEN OF MANY TONGUES

The Twelfth Session of the United Nations General Assembly opens in New York next week (September 17), but some of the most important people there will receive no mention, even in the official report of the proceedings. They are the 65 United Nations interpreters, one of whom recently described his job.

"You do an editing job as you go along," he said. "You must be absolutely faithful to what the delegate is trying to convey. You keep up with him, but you also try to make things clear where they are confused. Sometimes you translate exactly what he says and then add a few words to explain what he means. You lose time that way, but you gain it back by cutting out the padding the speaker puts in!"

Conference hours are long and interpreting is tiring work. Often an interpreter will start work at 10 a.m. and go on, with short breaks for lunch and supper, until 8 a.m. the next day.

LIVERPOOL'S LAST TRAMS

Liverpool's tram service, 60 years old, comes to an end on Saturday. Twelve of the old tramcars, affectionately called Green Goddesses, will make a ceremonial last journey, with 700 passengers aboard.

They will have a police escort, and the transport department's band will play farewell music as they reach journey's end.





New look and last look

The proud figure of Justice on top of the Old Bailey gets a cleaning and regilding, but the winged statue on top of London's Gaiety Theatre leaves its aerial post because the theatre is being demolished.

NEWS FROM THE ZOO

GUY THE GORILLA HAS NO WEIGHT PROBLEMS

London Zoo's £1000 gorilla, Guy, has just had one of his periodical weight checks and is now 24 stone 6 lb.

"This is rather less than when we last put him on the scales," a Zoo official told me. "But his slight decrease is nothing to worry about. It is almost certainly caused by the fact that he nowadays gets far fewer titbits from the public than he used to do. He still remains in very good health, and today is the biggest gorilla in Europe. But with maturity—he is now 12—he is becoming rather shy and also dangerous."

Guy has his own specially designed weighing machine fixed in his inner den. It is a kind of "weighbridge," or weighing platform, operated from outside the cage, so keepers do not have to enter his quarters. Food is placed on the "scales" while Guy is in his outdoor compartment. When he comes indoors he sits happily on the weighbridge to eat his dinner, and keepers, watching outside, can then read his weight.

BIG BEN AND BEBE

On arrival at Regent's Park in November 1947, Guy was a little mite weighing only 25 lb. His present weight is considered to be nothing exceptional for these biggest of all apes. Gorillas occasionally weigh as much as 40 stone.

One Zoo "heavyweight" who *has* been putting on a lot of weight lately is Ben, the white rhinoceros, who lives with his partner, Bebe, at the cattle sheds. So big has Ben been getting that renovations are now being made to his quarters. He cannot go through the doorway connecting his "bedroom" with his feeding room, so this doorway is being enlarged. On the one occasion he tried to get into the dining-room he nearly brought the walls down.

"Ben has put on so much weight this summer that he is now well over a ton," Headkeeper Pullen told me. "And Bebe is not far behind him."

TOO MUCH BREAD

The rhinos are the highest-priced animals in the Zoo, being valued at £4000 each. They arrived from East Africa in 1955, when about five years old. As stated in the C N recently, officials are hoping for the birth of a calf within the next year or two.

Ben and Bebe give their keepers only one cause for concern—accepting too much bread from visitors. "Bread is a nuisance," said Mr. Pullen. "For if they take too much, it is apt to swell inside them and so cause gastric trouble. The only titbits we want people to give them are vegetables."

Just returned to the menagerie's penguin collection is Alice, one of the Zoo's 17 Cape or black-footed penguins. For the past few weeks Alice has been an inmate at the sanatorium, where she has been moulting.

"Normally, we do not move moulting penguins to the sanatorium, as they complete the process, a natural one, without incident in their own enclosure," said Mr. John Yealland, curator of birds. "But Alice's case was rather special. A few weeks ago she produced twins and the chicks were constantly worrying their mother for food, which in her moulting state made her rather feeble.

"During her absence, keepers gave special attention to her youngsters and hand-fed them. But now, with the moult over, Alice is back with her children again, and all are happy together."

Not so shy



This baby Impala antelope, Tuesday by name, is learning to get over his natural shyness at the Children's Zoo, Regent's Park.

Talking of birds, the menagerie is likely before long to receive some interesting specimens from central British Somaliland. A district officer in the Colonial Administrative Service has just left Britain for service in that area, and he has a list of several rare birds badly needed by the Zoo.

ROYAL STARLING

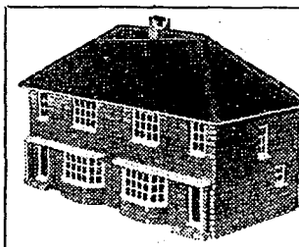
Among the "wanted" species are red-billed oxpeckers, Ruppell's weavers, crimson-rumped waxbills, Fischer's whydals, and red-bellied parrots. None of these has previously been seen at Regent's Park. "But what we are particularly hoping for is a Royal starling," said Mr. Yealland. "This is a wonderful bird with an intensely metallic plumage, long tail, and a bright yellow breast. It is rather rare, even in Somaliland."

Oddly enough, the greatest attractions at the Zoo aquarium just now are not fish, but mammals—the only mammals kept there. They are the nine-foot-long manatees, Ferdinand and Miranda, who came from British Guiana in 1955 and which are now valued at £150 each. Ferdinand in particular is developing a trick which is endearing him to everyone.

"If one stands in front of the pool and flicks a finger in the water," said an official, "Ferdinand swims to the back of the pool, then charges up on to the 'beach.' The visitor can either stroke Ferdy's clownish face, or feed him by hand with green food. This is a degree of tameness quite surprising in one of these mammals.

"Miranda has so far not shown any inclination to copy his friendly tactics. But she is interesting in another way. She is submerging for longer and longer periods at a time. Her record for staying underwater so far appears to be just over six minutes."

CRAVEN HILL



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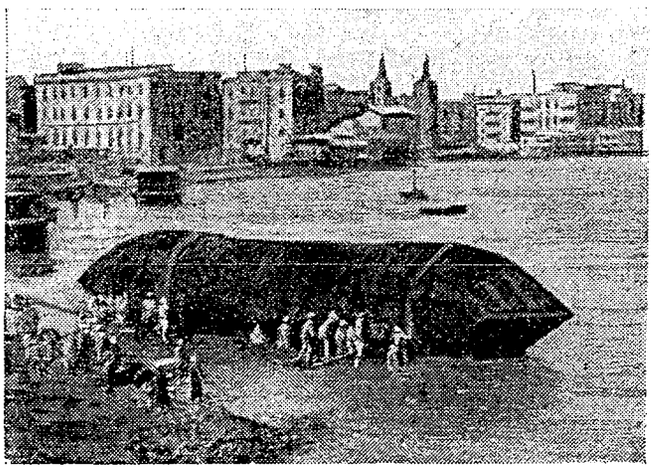
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IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK—SEPTEMBER 14, 1878

CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE NOW STANDS IN LONDON

LONDON—Londoners are still crowding the Victoria Embankment and Waterloo Bridge to catch a glimpse of the massive obelisk, popularly known as Cleopatra's Needle, which was placed on its grey granite pedestal here two days ago.

This giant stone monument, 68½ feet high, was towed all the way from the Nile to the Thames after lying for centuries in Egyptian sand.



Launching the cylinder with its precious cargo

To bring guests to see the exciting ceremony, a river steamer was chartered by Professor Erasmus Wilson, the well-known surgeon who is financing the project of bringing the Needle to Britain, and Mr. John Dixon, the civil engineer whose job it was to transport it from Egypt. Among those on board the steamer were the Prince of Wales and the Consul-General of Egypt.

The Needle had lain on its side for several days across girders 50 feet from the ground. All that was needed now was to raise its point a little and then press its 16-foot-square base into the pedestal.

This delicate and tricky task was performed in one hour, and the pent-up feelings of the intense crowd were released with a mighty roar of applause as the Union Jack and the Egyptian flag were unfurled.

It is almost 60 years since Egypt offered one of Cleopatra's two Needles to the British Government. But no further developments took place until last year when Professor Wilson financed the expedition to bring it to London.

No ship's hold could take so long and cumbersome an object, and its 186-ton weight made it a dangerous load.

Mr. John Dixon decided to build a boat around the Needle. Iron plates were shipped from Britain to build the cylindrical boat—92 feet long and 16 feet in diameter. On it were built two cabins, one for the captain and one for his crew.

On September 8, 1877, this huge rudderless floating cylinder—not surprisingly christened Cleopatra—left Alexandria Harbour. The sea was rough, but although the tugs rolled and tossed she held her course steadily, and while the captain of the tugs manoeuvred his charge through difficult water, his Arab pilot sat cross-legged on the paddle box.

ADRIFT IN A STORM

The Cleopatra was handed over to the steamer Olga, which was to tow it to Britain. At first the voyage went remarkably well, but on October 15, in the Bay of Biscay, a fierce storm sprang up. The terrific force of the gale broke the tow ropes and, after a desperate struggle, the Olga was forced to leave the Cleopatra behind—six of her crew dead.

Later the Cleopatra was picked up and taken to the Spanish port of Ferrol where, after lying there for several months, it was towed to the Thames by the Anglia, the biggest tug in the Port of London.

By then more than half of the £10,000 given by Professor Wilson had been spent in transporting the cylinder from Alexandria to London. At last, after heated squabbling, it was decided to set it up on the Thames Embankment.

Cleopatra's Needle is one of the two tall obelisks built by King Thothmes III at Heliopolis about 1475 B.C.

(The other Cleopatra's Needle was presented by the Khedive to America and was set up in New York's Central Park in 1881.)



Jumping to it

A champion ice-skater making an amazing leap into the air on the rink in Sun Valley, one of the great holiday resorts in the American State of Idaho.

Fishermen's Festival

This is the time of Harvest Festivals, the time of year when our churches are decorated with fruit, flowers, vegetables, and sheaves of corn. But in some of our fishing villages they hold services of thanksgiving for another kind of harvest, the harvest of the sea.

In the Northumbrian village of Seahouses, for instance, the fishermen themselves decorate the Methodist church. The walls are draped with fishing nets containing fish, and from the ceiling hangs an anchor. At the front are three lights—red for port, green for starboard, and the white masthead light—and in the centre is the steering-wheel of a ship lost on the Farne Islands during the First World War.

Crab pots and lobster pots, herring baskets, fenders, coils of rope, graphs, and sounding charts are also displayed, together w several model fishing boats a lifeboats, correct in every detail

Round the walls hang seve lifebelts from fishing boats in harbour—John Wesley, Prov ence, Children's Friend, Kin Light, and Good Fellowsh There is even a model lightho with a flashing light and the wo Joy and Righteousness inscrib on it.

At the services a choir of fish men in navy-blue jerseys s solos and hymns that smack of sea: "Will your anchor hold . "Let the lower lights be burnin and so on.

Some of the fishermen take collection in miniature herr baskets, walking down the ai with the rolling gait of those w are used to keeping their bala on decks that are seldom level a never still.

THE WHITE COMPANY—new picture-version of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's stirring yarn (1

The story tells the adventures of the White Company, a band of soldiers serving the Black Prince in France in 1366. But it begins, not in France, but at Beaulieu Abbey, Hampshire, where the peace of the monastery is disturbed only by the burly high-spirited Hordle John, who is accused, among other offences, of helping a pretty maid over a stream. *(This picture-version is given here permission of the executors of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle John Murray (Publishers) Ltd.)*



The Abbot sentenced John to be dismissed from the Order, but John only smiled. He was bored with monastic life and had only entered the Abbey because a girl he admired had married someone else. His smile angered the Abbot, who ordered him to be scourged. That was too much for John. A young man of enormous strength he seized a chair, defied the monks and, pushing one aside, escaped from the building.



Another who left the Abbey that day was the orphan, Alleyne Edricson, a quiet youth whose father had provided for him to be brought up by the monks, stipulating that he should be sent out into the world when he grew up. Alleyne was sad at leaving Beaulieu, and disturbed at the prospect of meeting for the first time his elder brother, a man of evil reputation called the Sorcan of Minstead.



Alleyne soon found that life in the outside world was very different from the peaceful monastery. He stopped at an inn, where the men made fun of his youthful appearance and demanded that he should buy them all ale or mead. Then big Hordle John, who had acquired new clothes, entered. The two had been friends at the Abbey, and Alleyne was glad of a companion in this strange place.



Later a tough old soldier, Sam Aylwa entered. He was on his way to Christchur with a letter asking Sir Nigel Loring to ta command of the White Company. Sam talk of his adventures in the wars. He admir John's bulk and tried to persuade him to jo the White Company. Alleyne, fired by Sa tales, would have liked to join, but was oblig to seek the elder brother he could not rememb

What adventures lie ahead of this oddly-assorted trio? See next week's instalment

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An exciting new adventure aboard the Mirelda

NO CLUES FOR THE CONWAYS

by Geoffrey Morgan

1. The derelict

THE yacht was behaving in a most unseamanlike manner. As soon as Jerry Conway sighted the distant craft he thought she was being sailed by someone whose only knowledge of water was the park boating lake.

The vessel was wallowing in the gentle North Sea swell, the boom of her mainsail swinging to and fro across her deck as if the mainsheet had gone. But he could not see the reason for her strange appearance with the naked eye and from the low deck of the sailing barge Mirelda; she warranted closer study.

He turned and ran smartly aft, where Skipper Amos lounged at the wheel, idly watching the great spread of his mainsail and puffing at his ancient pipe.

"Yacht off the port bow, skipper," Jerry sang out as he reached through the open hatch for the binoculars hanging beside the companion-ladder. "Looks a bit queer to me."

Without waiting for an answer, he ran back along the deck and climbed into the rigging. He wedged himself against the cross-trees and focused the glasses on the white speck across the sea.

The magnification of the powerful lenses brought the little craft up close, and Jerry almost fell from his perch with surprise. *There was no one at the helm.* He knew that most seagoing yachts could be made to sail themselves: but this was different. The tiller had not been lashed, the mainsail was spilt, and the sheet was loose so that the boom slammed about in the light breeze.

She looked to be a boat of about eight tons, Bermuda rigged. Her dinghy was stowed on the foredeck, covering the forehatch. The white paint of her hull looked shabby, but the varnish of her coach roof and doghouse gleamed in the morning sunlight. There was a gash across the lower part of her mainsail, and Jerry thought she had been heavily battered in the storm of the night before. But where was her skipper? Lying injured below? Either that or the yacht was deserted.

He slipped down to the deck again with the agility of a monkey. He was as much at home in the rigging of a boat as a monkey is in a tree, for Jerry and his Canadian cousin Jane spent all their spare time on the water.

They got themselves afloat at every opportunity, and when they were not sailing out of Eastfleet on the River Orwell aboard their Uncle Alec's yacht, they were crewing for Skipper Amos in his old Thames sailing barge, the Mirelda.

Most week-ends and holidays found them sailing somewhere, with the result that their youthful experience matched that of many an older hand. There was little they did not know about boats and the handling of them; it was, therefore, natural that their bearded friend and skipper should always be glad of their help and company aboard the Mirelda.

As Jerry ran aft Amos altered course a few degrees and the Mirelda's bow edged slowly round, pointing closer to the strange, distant craft. Amos stood erect at the wheel, his hand shielding his eyes from the glare as he looked over the sea.



All eyes on the derelict yacht

"Take a peep through these," Jerry said, offering him the binoculars. "See what you make of her."

Jerry took over the wheel and Amos concentrated all his attention on the yacht.

"Hm," he grunted at length. "Something badly wrong there. Looks as if she's abandoned."

"That's what I thought," Jerry said. "But the dinghy's still aboard. No one's going to swim away when he has a dinghy." He cast a glance to leeward. The Norfolk coast was a thin, low haze on the horizon. "And anyway," he added, "she's not on fire or sinking."

"No," Amos agreed, frowning. "We'll close with her and see. Tell Jane to bring up the megaphone."

Jerry went to the hatch and called to Jane. She came out of the saloon and paused at the foot of the ladder.

"What's cooking?" she asked. "Don't want me on deck, do you? Guess I'll never get through the chores——"

"Don't worry about the chores," Jerry interrupted sharply. "Bring up the megaphone. Someone's in trouble and we're going in to help."

"Trouble?" Jane's eyes widened. Without another word she turned and slipped back into the saloon and then came bounding up the ladder with the trumpet-shaped voice aid. "Where? Who's in trouble on a morning like this?" She passed the megaphone to Jerry and turned quickly to follow the direction of his pointing finger.

Mystery

"My!" she exclaimed. "That looks a bad heap." She stood tight-lipped against the mizzen shrouds, staring at the forlorn craft, trying to solve the riddle the yacht presented. "No sign of life. What could have happened?"

"Caught in last night's storm, I reckon," Jerry spoke grimly. "Looks like the crew were washed overboard."

"Oh—my!" Jane gasped, her face suddenly showing white beneath its healthy tan.

"Mustn't jump to conclusions," Amos said. "They might be ill or they could have been taken off by some ship during the storm, thinking their boat was in danger of sinking. There might be a number of reasons for her derelict appearance. We'll soon see."

The Mirelda closed in slowly and Amos exchanged the glasses for the megaphone which Jerry had been holding almost unconsciously in his hand. A few minutes later Amos's deep voice boomed across the water.

The two vessels were still some distance apart, but the Conways knew that their skipper's voice, magnified by the hailer, was more than enough to rouse the heaviest sleeper had there been one aboard the drifting yacht.

No answer

"AHOY—THERE!" The voice roared out again, but the yacht remained wrapped in a death-like silence. Only the gentle swish of the Mirelda's bow wave and the creak of her blocks answered the call.

"We'll go round her stern," Amos said grimly, putting down the megaphone. "Either she's been abandoned or her crew are helpless below." He swung the wheel a fraction and the Mirelda nosed up towards the yacht.

Jerry raised the binoculars again and focused them on the cockpit.

"The cabin doors are open," he reported at length. "No sign of anyone in the doghouse." He lowered his range and swept the afterdeck and transom. Through the glasses he could read the name and the letters F.Y.C. "She's the Windfall, Skipper. Flensham Yacht Club. So she's based on the Crouch." He lowered the glasses and looked at Amos, surprised by the skipper's expression.

Amos was tugging thoughtfully at his beard, a shocked, puzzled gleam in his eyes.

"I thought she looked a bit familiar," he said. "She must be Brett Hallam's boat." His frown deepened. "I don't understand it."

"Who's Brett Hallam?" Jane inquired.

"I've heard you speak of him," Jerry said, raking over his memory. "Didn't he once do a trip with you aboard the Mirelda?"

Amos nodded. "Yes. A couple of years ago. I'm afraid trading in a barge wasn't exciting enough for young Hallam. He bought the Windfall soon after and went to work as a charter skipper. He used to go abroad a lot, and I'd heard he'd been suspected more than once of smuggling."

"Smuggling!" Jane exclaimed.

Amos smiled grimly. "Never known him to be convicted; but I'd never be surprised if he had. He offered to tackle any assignment, anywhere, and I reckon if the reward was big enough he wouldn't object to flirting with danger or defying the law if necessary."

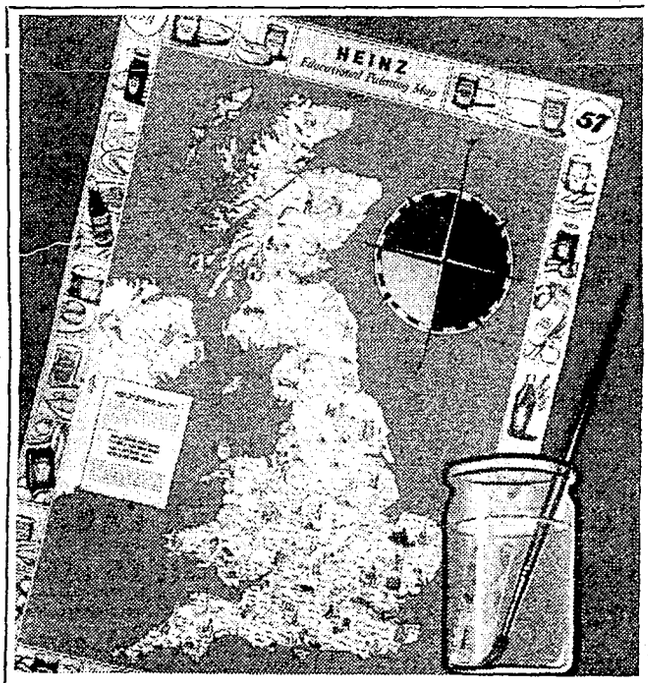
His eyes narrowed as he stared across at the little craft that had suddenly assumed special significance. "But he was a first-class seaman. He'd never get into trouble—not that kind of trouble," Amos added, indicating the damaged, untidy gear of the yacht. "He'd never abandon a boat till she sank beneath him. If that's his boat and Hallam's not aboard, then it's going to be another mystery of the sea."

"You mean," Jerry said slowly, "there might have been foul play?"

Amos sighed, his expression noncommittal.

"Mustn't jump to conclusions," he advised for the second time. "Best get aboard and see."

To be continued



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SPORTS SHORTS

MANY of the world's greatest motor-racing drivers will be in action on Saturday in the International Trophy meeting at Silverstone, in Northants. Stirling Moss will lead the Vanwall team, together with Tony Brooks and Stuart Lewis-Evans. The French driver Jean Behra and Harry Schell, the American ace, will attempt to win the big event of the day driving B.R.M. cars. In addition, Mike Hawthorn, Duncan Hamilton, and Ivor Bueb are expected to drive new Jaguars on the track where these cars have always been successful.

Leicestershire's new leader

CHARLES PALMER has resigned his position as Leicestershire's secretary-captain to take up a business appointment. Willie Watson is leaving Yorkshire, for whom he made his debut in 1939, to take over the post. Willie Watson, who scored over 17,000 runs for Yorkshire, and played 17 times for England, also won fame playing soccer with Huddersfield Town and Sunderland, gaining international recognition. Later he became manager of Halifax Town, but he has now given up his soccer connections to concentrate on his new job.

ONE of the ambitions of Alec Wilson, 14-year-old schoolboy of Leslie, in Fife, was to play in the boys' golf championship at Carnoustie. But a few weeks before this year's event he fell from his bicycle and injured his hands and arms so badly that he had to scratch. It seemed that he would be unable to play golf again for a considerable time, but wee Alec had other ideas. Although his hands were not completely healed, he turned up at Carnoustie and asked if he might play. His request was granted, and though he did not win he proved that he has the right fighting spirit. The title was won by David Ball, of Castle Rushen High School, Isle of Man.

In the family

SPORT does not always run in families, but it certainly does in the Truman family of Woodford Green, Essex. Most people have heard of Christine, who is regarded as a future Wimbledon champion. Then there is brother Neil, who this summer gained his first international recognition. Now comes eleven-year-old Nell, who recently won the Under-12 final in a talent-finding tournament at Queen's Club.

Christine Truman, incidentally, is at Wimbledon this week defending the British Junior title she won last year. With her two great rivals, Ann Haydon and Sheila Armstrong, both too old for the competition, Christine is a firm favourite to win again. J. Tattersall, winner of the boys' singles and doubles championships last year, is also defending his titles.

Last performance

VISITORS to Herne Hill on Saturday will see the final track appearance in this country of two of the world's outstanding professional sprint cyclists—our own Reg Harris, and his rival for so many years, Arie van Vliet of Holland. Both have decided to retire at the end of the year.

NO one has yet attempted to cross the Atlantic by sea-bike. But 29-year-old John Abrams, of Mill Hill, Middlesex, hopes to set off next June in an effort to accomplish this adventurous crossing. He is designing a twin-hulled craft made of glass-fibre, to be propelled by the pedals of a bicycle and geared to a propeller. He will sleep in one of the hulls.

SPORTING GALLERY

STANLEY MATTHEWS

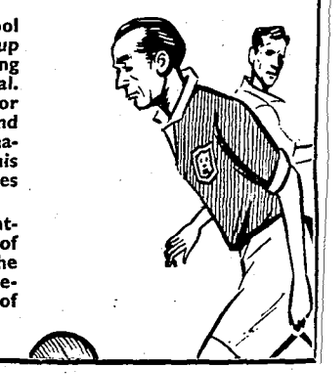


At 42, Stanley Matthews is still playing soccer with the same zest as he did at 14, when he was at Wellington School, Hanley, and a schoolboy international. He loves the game he has adorned for so long and is never out of training.

Port Vale was the club he followed as a boy, but it was with Stoke City that he started and his first big honour was a Second Division championship medal (1933).

He has been with Blackpool since 1947, winning a Cup medal in 1953, after twice being on the losing side in the Final. He was 19 when he played for England for the first time and was, therefore, an international before some of his present England team-mates were born.

The greatest of all right-wingers and the "idol" of football spectators all over the world, Stanley Matthews remains the most modest of men.



FOR nine years Clive van Ryneveld has been one of South Africa's most brilliant sporting stars. Captaining Oxford University's cricket team at the age of 20, he also played Rugby for England and cricket for the Springboks. Now it looks as though his international sporting days are over, for he has become a Member of the South Africa Parliament and he will have little time for either game.

Her trophies



Pat Ford, 14, of Eastcote, Middlesex, *proudly displays* some of the trophies she has won for high-jumping. She was awarded the big cup as best all-round athlete of her school in 1956.

ALBERT GRIMES, locomotive inspector of Crewe, recently accomplished one of the finest record-rides in the history of cycling. On a tricycle, he covered the 900 miles from Land's End to John o' Groats in 2 days 12 hours 37 minutes. This wonderful feat of endurance beat the previous tricycle record, set up this summer by David Duffield, by more than 7½ hours!

Fine Welsh athlete

JOHN WILLIAMS, of Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Carmarthen, is only 16, but already he is being spoken of as Wales's greatest up-and-coming athlete.

Last year John rather unwillingly took part in a County A.A.A. trial 880 yards. He won in the very good time of 2 minutes 7.6 seconds, and has since devoted most of his spare time to training.

Earlier this year the news spread that John was running the half-mile in under two minutes, and he did, in fact, beat the Welsh Youths' record of 2 minutes 2.8 seconds by four seconds. Then at the Welsh Secondary Schools' Championships at Colwyn Bay, on a heavy, rain-soaked track, John won in 1 minute 56.7 seconds. (The Welsh Senior Native record set up 21 years ago by Jim Alford is 1 minute 56 seconds.)

John, now a Sixth-Former, hopes to enter Loughborough College in a few years' time.

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UNIQUE VILLAGE SIGN



The Leicestershire village of Barrow-upon-Soar has several claims to distinction, not least being the plesiosaurus fossil found in its soil in 1851 and exhibited in the Leicester Museum. This prehistoric marine reptile, inhabitant of Britain many millions of years ago, is depicted on the unique village sign, a coronation memorial, shown in this photo by Mr. F. Cocks of Barrow.

It was set up this year on a site given by a former resident—a triangular plot known as "Jerusalem," at a junction of roads from Leicester, Loughborough, and Nottingham. Built of the local Mountsorrel granite, with end slabs of Swithland slate quarried nearby, it was constructed by local craftsmen; the replica of the fossil (¼ size) being entrusted to experts at the cement works.

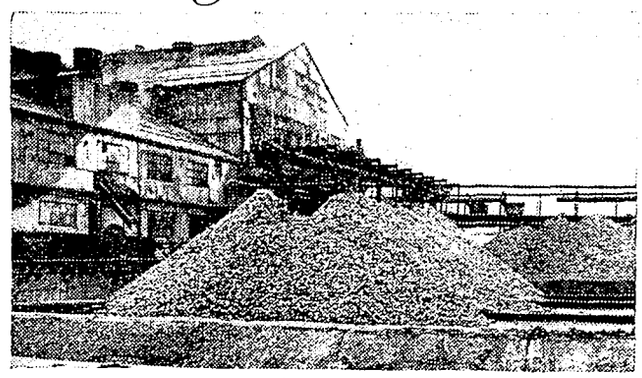
The Rover Scouts of Barrow have adopted the plesiosaurus, a "genuine antique," as their emblem and it appears on their pennon.

September is sugar-beet time

When mother buys a packet of sugar, it may have been produced from cane growing in the hot lands of the world—or from a root, sugar beet, which is harvested at farms on the eastern side of Britain and in other temperate zones.

There is no need to worry about the source. When sugar is refined it is impossible to tell from which plant it has come.

Sugar beet is grown on about 45,000 British farms each year, and 18 sugar factories handle about 4,500,000 tons of it. The manufacturing season extends from September to January, and about a quarter of all the sugar consumed in Britain is from this source.



A load of sugar-beet at an English factory

KNOWN BY THE ROMANS

Sugar was first brought to Europe by the Crusaders. But, centuries before, the Romans knew a wild plant called Beta maritima which grew on the seashore and was sweet to the taste. It weighed only a few ounces and had a sugar content of only five to six per cent, yet from it has been bred the present-day root, which averages one pound in weight and may contain as much as 20 per cent of sugar.

The first commercial production of sugar from beet was carried out in France during the Napoleonic Wars. The idea was to beat the blockade imposed by the British Fleet, which prevented cane sugar reaching the country.

It was the shortage of sugar in Britain during the First World War that was largely responsible for the growth of our sugar-beet industry. This time the blockade was imposed by German submarines.

Though factories were started here early this century by Dutchmen, the work was only on a small scale, and the big factories were built after the war.

At the factories, the beet is washed and then passes on to slicers, which cut it into thin strips, V-shaped, called "cossettes." These pass to a diffusion station where sugar-laden juice is extracted by means of hot water.

This "raw juice" is then purified, being pumped into huge tanks, where it is mixed with lime and has carbon dioxide gas passed through it.

The "thin juice" which results is then thickened, heated, and crystallised under vacuum, and at this stage it is a mixture of crystals plus syrup which is separated by ingenious machines. The syrup is slightly diluted and boiled again, when it produces raw sugar. The pure white sugar passes into a granulator, to be dried and cooled.

Oddly enough, the waste pulp which remains after sugar has been extracted from the beet usually returns to the farms where the root crop grew. Dried and mixed with beet molasses, it is a valuable feeding stuff for cattle.

NO TEA FOR TWO

While on holiday at Prestwick, a Paisley couple went on a coach mystery tour which landed them back in their home town. As it was raining they thought they would have a cup of tea at home. Then they found that they had left their keys at their holiday address!



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NO WALKING-STICK

"WHY do you always carry your umbrella, no matter what the weather?"

"Because it cannot walk," came the retort.

UNPROVERBIAL

THERE was an old farmer named Mark
Who went for a stroll in the park.
He met a Great Dane,
Who caused him much pain,
For its bite *was* much worse than its bark.

SCHOOLBOY HOWLER

HORS de combat means the horses fight.

GARDEN GAME

THIS is a game in which you keep adding a bit on to your sentence and it grows and grows. First you say "Out in the fairies' garden you'll see one old oak." Then you say "Out in the fairies' garden you'll see one old oak and two timid tom-tits." And so you go on. For example:

Out in the fairies' garden you'll see ONE old oak, TWO timid tom-tits, THREE trilling thrushes, FOUR frisky frogs, FIVE feathery finches, SIX stone sundials, SEVEN slippery snails, EIGHT elderly earwigs, NINE nice nectarines, TEN tiny tadpoles.

JACKO AND COMPANY MAKE MERRY



One dull afternoon Jacko and Company decided to search through the loft. From time to time it yielded the most interesting things, and this occasion was no exception. Of all things, they came across an old musical box. "Let's get this downstairs," they chortled. It proved to be in working order and they were having a very merry time when a startled Mother and her friend came home. But the fun was harmless and soon they found themselves smiling.

FROM MY BEDROOM WINDOW

FROM the window of my bedroom
I can watch the trains go by,
And see great clouds of grey-white smoke
Rise up and fill the sky.

Sometimes the trains go very slow,
And the drivers I can see,
And if, by chance, they look my way,
They often wave to me.

But, best of all, I love to watch
Them passing in the night,
Each cabin is a-glowing red
With dancing firelight.

COMPLETE ANSWER

"WHAT would you like for your birthday?"

"A piece of string, please."

"A piece of string?"

"Yes—with an engine tied on the end."

BEDTIME TALE

JENNY AND THE LITTLE APPLES

WHEN Jenny went blackberrying with her big sister Mary she was so disappointed because, although Mary soon had a basketful of juicy, ripe blackberries, Jenny had only a few berries at the bottom of her basket.

"I'm ready to go home," said Mary. "But I must call at Farmer White's because Mummy wants him to sell her some apples to put with the blackberries."



"I'll fill my basket, and then come home," said Jenny.

After Mary had gone, Jenny crawled under a wire fence into the next field to look for more berries. But there were no blackberry bushes in this field. There were no hedges either, only an old stone wall. Jenny stared at the wall, and then she saw a little tree with lots of little green apples hanging from its branches.

"Apples!" thought Jenny. "Mummy wants apples."

Carefully she climbed to the top of the wall, taking her basket with her. Holding on to the tree with one hand, Jenny picked the little green apples with the other. She picked steadily and soon her basket was full.

Getting down from the wall was harder than climbing up, and Jenny was glad when at last she started walking home with her basket of apples. Outside their house, Mary was standing looking for Jenny.

"Look," cried Jenny. "I've got apples for Mummy. She will be pleased."

When Mary looked at the apples, she said, "Silly! They are crabs."

"No. Apples," said Jenny. "Mummy wants them."

"They're no good. They're sour, wild apples. Mummy doesn't want them."

Just then Mummy came up, and heard Mary.

"But I do want crab apples," she said. "I've always wanted to make crab apple jelly. But nobody could find them. Nobody but my clever little Jenny."

TAIL TALE

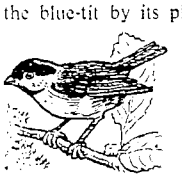
"WHY so sad, dear guinea pig?
You don't look very gay!"
Thus spoke his friend the weasel,
When they chanced to meet one day.

"The squirrel has just told me,"
He answered with a wail,
"Both my ears will drop off if
I'm held up by my tail!"

"Oh dear, you silly creature!"
The weasel cried with glee.
"This will never happen, for
You have no tail, you see!"

SPOT THE . . .

COAL-TITMOUSE as it flits daintily about the hedges. This attractive little bird can be distinguished from the blue-tit by its plumage, which is much quieter in tone. Upper parts are olive brown, lower parts buff, with the breast palest of all. Its cheeks are white, and its throat and cap are black. The cap has a white nape, and this helps to distinguish the coal-tit from the marsh-tit.



Coal-tits, like all titmice, perform invaluable service by eating numerous insect pests.

THE BRIG

A BRIG is she by rig 'tis plain.
Two masts there are, the fore and main.
With all sails square and spanker aft.
A sight to see, this sprightly craft.
The masts and spars are smartly varnished,
The hull is white but getting tarnished.
Deckhouse brown and polished high.
The decks are clean and always dry.
Bowsprit cocked, and headsails set—
She'd look fine at sea all wet.
But *her* sea is hard and mottled.
For, you see, *this* ship is bottled!

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES

Name the towns. Clapham, Leadenham, Chartham, Bookham, Caterham, Brigham, Burnham

Mixed-up menu. Water, lamb, plaice, turkey, pheasant, mustard

Name them. John, Fred

What am I? Porpoise

JUST A FEW WORDS

1. C Incorrigible means beyond correction or reform. (From Latin *in*, *not*, and *corrigere*, to correct.)
2. B Articulate means having clear expression, speaking distinctly.
3. A A rhetorical question is one not calling for an answer, but made merely for effect. (From Greek *rhetor*.)
4. B Lugubrious means mournful; dismal. (From Latin *lugubris*.)
5. C Facetious means witty, humorous; would-be funny. (From Latin *facetus*, merry, witty.)
6. C Clemency is mildness; readiness to forgive; mercy. (From Latin *clemens*.)

NAME THESE PLACES

You will not find these names on the map, but if you think carefully you will find that they suggest the names of places. Can you say which ones?

APPLAUDHAM, Heavyham, Mapham, Novelham, Provisionham, Boatham, Scorcham.

MIXED-UP MENU

THESE look like strange words, but rearranged in their correct order they are all things you might find on your table one mealtime. Can you say what they are?

WETRA, BALM, CAPLIE, KEYRUT, HEATPANS, DRUMSAT.

NAME THEM

THESE jumbled letters can be rearranged to make two boys' Christian names. Can you say what they are?

JFORHEND

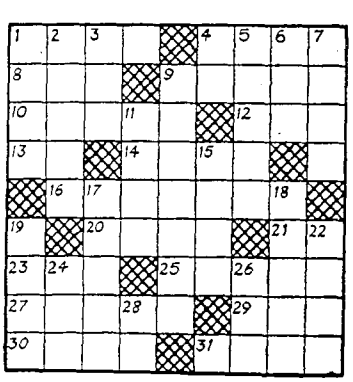
WHAT AM I?

My first's in pony but never in dog,
My second's in toad and also in frog,
My third's in deer but not in cat,
My fourth's in Puma but absent in rat,
My fifth's in lion but not in bear,
My sixth's in tiger but not in hare,
My seventh's in sheep but not in mole,
My eighth's in elk and also in vole.
Although I'm usually found in schools,
I'm a mammal who lives where Nepture rules.

Crossword Puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Join up. 4 Stain. 8 Poem. 9 Rises into the air. 10 Part of a flower. 12 Afternoon meal. 13 South Africa. 14 To measure. 16 Landscape. 20 Finishes. 21 Early English. 23 Sort of vase. 25 Composition. 27 Machine, or engine. 29 Custom. 30 Nuisance. 31 Favourites.

READING DOWN. 1 Chops down. 2 Notions. 3 For fishing. 4 Thus. 5 Father! 6 Mineral. 7 Former Russian ruler. 9 Slim. 11 Word spoken at end of prayer. 15 —— of the D'Urbervilles. 17 American coins. 18 It makes bread rise. 19 Blow up your tyres with it. 22 See with them. 24 Mass of fish eggs. 26 To bring a lawsuit. 28 Old Testament.

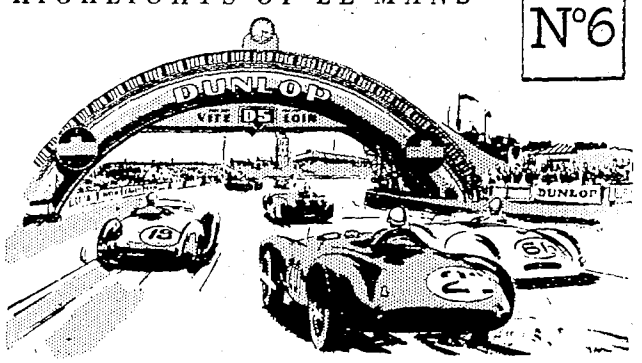


Answer next week

The answers to these puzzles are given in column 5

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HIGHLIGHTS OF LE MANS N°6



Close shave for Gonzales!

The 1954 Le Mans provided spectators with one of the most exciting finishes on record. The race, as expected, had resolved itself into a duel between an Italian Ferrari and a British Jaguar, separated by a gap of only 8 minutes. Pit stops for repairs and refuelling delayed each car in turn, but every lap saw the Rolt-Hamilton Jaguar gaining gradually. At 1.30 p.m. on the Sunday it began to rain very heavily just as the Ferrari (still in the lead and driven by the famous Gonzales) came in for its final refuelling. And now came drama: for with Tony Rolt driving at incredible speed and gaining every minute, the Ferrari would not start! The minutes passed and excitement mounted to fever pitch. Then suddenly the powerful Italian car roared back into the race, its lead cut to 1 minute 37 seconds! Could it hold off the Jaguar? Once again Fate took a hand, for suddenly the downpour stopped, the roads began to dry, and Gonzales, taking advantage of the safer conditions crammed on speed, held his lead and crossed the line a winner by only 3 miles out of a total of 2,524!

DUNLOP TYRES

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